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Law Enforcement Available for Comment on House Judiciary Prison Reform Vote

Law Enforcement Leaders: House Prison Reform Bill Is Insufficient; Congress Must Act on Senate Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act

Washington D.C. – With the markup of the Prison Reform and Redemption Act scheduled this afternoon in the House Judiciary Committee, Law Enforcement Leaders issued the following statement:

“This legislation focuses on prison reform alone, and decades of experience in public safety tell us that is a mistake,” said Ronal Serpas, Chairman of Law Enforcement Leaders and former Superintendent of the New Orleans Police Department. “Any effort to reduce the cycle of crime and prevent recidivism should include sentencing reform, alongside prison reform measures, like the bi-partisan Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act advancing through the Senate.”

Chairman Ronal Serpas and Timothy Heaphy, a member of Law Enforcement Leaders and former U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Virginia, are available for interviews today.

On Monday, over 60 members of Law Enforcement Leaders sent a letter to Senate and House leadership expressing their concerns with the Prison Reform and Redemption Act, which both progressive groups and law enforcement alike oppose because it does not address sentencing. The letter urged Congress to instead swiftly pass the bi-partisan Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act (SRCA).

The letter followed a series of criminal justice reform meetings last week between Congressional leaders, Jared Kushner, Law Enforcement Leaders and other bi-partisan advocates, in which Timothy Heaphy encouraged members of Congress on legislation that includes both sentencing and prison reform, like the SRCA.

To schedule an interview or learn more about Law Enforcement Leaders, please contact Fiona Druge at Fiona.Druge@berlinrosen.com or (646) 755-6126.

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About Law Enforcement Leaders

Law Enforcement Leaders unites over 200 current and former police chiefs, sheriffs, federal and state prosecutors, and attorneys general from all 50 states to urge for a reduction in both crime and incarceration. We believe that the country can reduce incarceration while keeping down crime, and we support changes to our criminal justice system to achieve that goal. See a full list of members here.